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Room: Ballroom

Drug resistance among pregnant women in GhanaP. Enyan^{1,*}, O. Joseph²¹ GHANA NATIONAL AMBULANCE SERVICE, Accra, Ghana² NIMA GOVT CLINIC, Accra, Ghana

Background: Initial evidence from resource-limited countries using the WHO HIV drug resistance (HIVDR) threshold survey suggests that transmission of drug-resistance strains is likely to be limited. However, as access to ART is expanded, increased emergence of HIVDR is feared as a potential consequence. We have performed a surveillance survey of transmitted HIVDR among recently infected persons in the geographic setting of Accra, Ghana

Methods & Materials: As part of a cross-sectional survey, 2 large voluntary counseling and testing centers in Accra enrolled 50 newly HIV-diagnosed, antiretroviral drug-naïve adults aged 18 to 25 years. Virus from plasma samples with >1,000 HIV RNA copies/mL (Roche Amplicor v1.5) were sequenced in the *pol* gene. Transmitted drug resistance-associated mutations (TDRM) were identified according to the WHO 2009 Surveillance DRM list, using Stanford CPR tool (v 5.0 beta). Phylogenetic relationships of the newly characterized viruses were estimated by comparison with HIV-1 reference sequences from the Los Alamos database, by using the ClustalW alignment program implemented

Results: Subtypes were predominantly D (39/70, 55.7%), A (29/70, 41.4%), and C (2/70; 2, 9%). Seven nucleotide sequences harbored a major TDRM (3 NNRTI, 3 NRTI, and 1 PI- associated mutation); HIVDR point prevalence was 10.0% (95%CI 4.1% to 19.5%). The identified TDRM were D67G (1.3%), L210W (2.6%); G190A (1.3%); G190S (1.3%); K101E (1.3%), and N88D (1.3%) for PI

Conclusion: In Accra the capital city of Ghana, we found a rate of transmitted HIVDR, which, according to the WHO threshold survey method, falls into the moderate (5 to 15%) category. This is a considerable increase compared to the rate of <5% estimated in the 2006–7 survey among women attending an antenatal clinic in mamobi. As ART programs expand throughout Africa, incident infections should be monitored for the presence of transmitted drug resistance in order to guide ART regimen policies

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Fertility desire and family planning need among people living with HIV in far western Nepal

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Background: In Nepal with the paradigm shift in the concentration of HIV epidemic from high-risk to low-risk women belonging to childbearing ages, there has been growing concern about their reproductive decisions. National data of 2009 shows that there are 63,528 HIV infections of which 52,503 are of 15–49 years age group. HIV-positive women have particular needs for contraception to avoid unwanted pregnancy and to eliminate the risk of transmission to an infant. The objective of the study was to identify the fertility desire and need of family planning among people living with HIV.

Methods & Materials: A descriptive cross sectional study. A total of 420 males and females people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA) under anti-retroviral treatment (ART) were interviewed using semi structured questionnaire. Univariate, and multivariate logistic regression analysis was performed

Results: Fifty percent of the current pregnancies were unwanted and 96% responded not desiring children in future. Income, HIV status of spouse and those not having current living children were more likely to have fertility desire and the association remained highly significant. The PLHA who did not have son were slightly more than six times more likely to desire for children than those who already had one or more son (OR= 6.324, 95% CI 2.195–18.221). Considering the need of family planning 36% of the PLHA who did not desire to have children in the future were not using any contraceptives. FP counseling during ART and duration under ART showed highly significant association with current use of contraception in regression analysis.

Conclusion: Despite endorsement of prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT) program by the government, the need of family planning is not met by the current infrastructure and additional efforts are needed to meet the needs among the PLHA.

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